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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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JAN 30 2004

In re the application of:

Shinichi AYABE et al.

Group Art Unit: 1638

Serial Number: 09/890,646

Examiner: R. Kallis

Filed: August 2, 2001

For: POLYNUCLEOTIDE ENCODING 2-HYDROXYISOFLAVANONE SYNTHASE

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
TO THE FIRST OFFICE ACTION DATED MARCH 13, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 15, 2003

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated March 13, 2003. A petition for a three-month extension of the period for responding to the Action is submitted herewith.

Please amend the application as directed below and consider the remarks that follow.